

<b>Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)</b>	Application No.  10/538,786	Applicant(s)  SUZUKI ET AL.
	Examiner  Karin M. Reichle	Art Unit  3761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on 28 January 2008 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - C. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Abstract:
  - A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - B. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Amendments to the drawings:
  - A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
  - C. Other See Continuation Sheet.
- 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Cancelled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - E. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):
  - See Continuation Sheet

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

#### TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

1. Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted.
2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

**Extensions of time** are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) **only** if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

**Failure to timely respond** to this notice will result in:

**Abandonment** of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or

**Non-entry** of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.



Continuation of 3(c) Other: The sheets with new Figures 15C and 16C and D are not replacement sheets, but rather new sheets and should be properly identified as such. The numbering of all the sheets of Figures has not been changed to reflect the addition of two new sheets. Figures 30A and B have still not been labelled "PRIOR ART".

Continuation of 5 Other: It is further noted that the last two lines of amended claim 2 include numerous grammatical errors, that claims as now amended appear to be redundant, compare, e.g., claims 24 and 26, and that claims as now amended do not appear to be supported/enabled by the portions of the specification set forth on page 23 of the response. With regard to the latter, where is it supported that a surface sheet which only partially covers in the longitudinal direction provides the function of the section added to the end of claim 1? Furthermore, since the lateral surfaces of the absorber include lateralmost edges of the upper surface, how can the liquid be absorbed by the lateral surface, i.e. including the upper surface, without being absorbed by the upper surface as now claimed in the section added to the end of claim 1? On page 39, line 21, all occurrences of "Air Laid" have not been amended.